



MINORITY HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Deborah Correia Morales, Aleatha Dickerson,
Julie Rawlings, Gloria Hincapie, Emma Simmons, MD,
Yvette Mendez, Darrell Thorpe, Reginald Tucker-Seeley, ScD, Lara Watkins, PhD

MHAC MEETING DATE: DEC. 08TH, 2010

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Present: Julie Rawlings, Reginald Tucker-Seeley, Mary Falvey, Darrell Thorpe, Gloria Hincapie, Deborah Perry, Correia Morales, Stephanie Howie representing Emma Simmons, Lara Watkins, Yvette Mendez

Requested Absence: Aleatha Dickerson

Unexcused Absent: Vinnie Velazquez, Joseph Diaz

HEALTH Staff: Rilwan Feyisitan (Chief of Minority Health), Jenn DeBoer (Minority Health Promotion Specialist), Carrie Bridges (Health Disparities and Access to Care Team Lead)

Guest: Ratsamy Keointhisone, RN, Dr. Tanya Daily

PROCEEDINGS:

- Meeting called to order at 3:00 P.M. by Co-Chair, Julie Rawlings
- Oct. 27th 2010) meeting minutes was approved.

Minority Health Advisory Business

Subcommittee Reports:

No report from the subcommittee at this time.

Setting 2011 Priorities:

Priorities of MHAC in 2011:

MHAC members unanimously agreed to retain 1 & 2 Priorities for 2011 MHAC, expanding Priority 2 to focus on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) standards and language access, while crafting the third new Priority for year 2011.

Summary of MHAC Priorities 1 and 2:

Priority 1

Promote health equity and continue to integrate elimination of racial and ethnic health disparities across all Health Department programs by providing information, education and training to Rhode Island communities on health indicators, health outcomes, and social determinants of health.

Priority 2 (Expanded version with focus on CLAS and language access)

Continue supporting the implementation of the CLAS Standards in health care settings across Rhode Island.

- Support the certification of interpreters and translators within healthcare facilities and private interpreting agencies.
- Assisting healthcare facilities to complete the CLAS assessment tool to evaluate their implementation of all 14 standards, grouped around culturally competent care, language access Services and organizational support for cultural competence.

After much consideration and debate from the MHAC, the 3rd Priority will focus on eliminating racism.

The newly developed language around Priority 3 is to:

Promote positive relations between people of different races and ethnic backgrounds by facilitating HEALTH and community conversations about interpersonal, inter-group, institutional, and structural racism, bias, and discrimination.

The goal is to establish or recognize policies and organizational practices that foster equitable opportunities and services for all.